

Parish Survey Results

On Pentecost Sunday, 648 parishioners and guests filled out our **St. Ignatius 2017 Spring Survey**. We collected information on many things – how long families have been in the parish, why people are choosing to come, something that was valued this year. Parishioners were also asked what they would love the parish to do, and they were asked to prioritize what they wanted the parish to focus on this coming parish year. You are invited to review all the responses and comments that were made on the surveys.

You will find that our parishioners and guests are coming to our parish for a variety of reasons and that the work of the parish is valued. Parishioners freely expressed both gratitude for many things well done and were critical of a few things.

The survey clearly shows a high level of appreciation for our liturgy and preaching. Our **liturgy and worship bring 75%** of the respondents to our parish and **56% come for the preaching** (percentages reflect that people choose more than one reason they come to St. Ignatius). There were many respondents who shared tender comments on the 7:30PM Contemplative Mass and what it means to them. The survey also affirmed what we believed about our attraction to those in the wider Portland community who identify with the Jesuits and Ignatian spirituality: **56%** of people come because of our Jesuit identity! Also, 16% of those who responded to the survey were guests, many indicating they were regular guests, coming for the Jesuit identity, preaching and liturgy.

Other values were frequently mentioned: **Social and ecological justice is a reason many come to St. Ignatius (at 42%)** and **a major priority for our parish (at 38%)**. However, there are comments from those who think we talk too much about social and ecological justice. Likewise, many people shared how welcomed they felt at our parish and a number felt we could be more welcoming.

The full diversity of responses can be seen only in looking at all the responses to the survey. **Please review the comments in full on the St. Ignatius website at <http://www.sipdx.org/announcements>**. These comments are valued and will direct some of our summer planning work for the coming year. Our staff, Pastoral Council, and lay leadership are reviewing the data this survey yielded and the 30+ pages of compiled comments and suggestions.

Thank you for participating in the survey. We invite you to join in and participate in the life of our vibrant parish. Please connect with a ministry coordinator or staff member - or contact the parish office if you would like to serve in some way. There are current needs for support in the following ministries: **Liturgy** (lector, Eucharistic minister, hospitality minister, sacristan, funeral coordination); **Social and Ecojustice** (for teams and service events); **Sacraments and Faith Formation** (as sacramental catechists and small group leaders); and in the many areas of **Welcome** and **Community Development** (Coffee & Donuts, Young Adult Group, Welcome Weekend, etc.). Our Parish Life Book, available at <http://www.sipdx.org/parish-life-handbook>, also details many ways you can become involved at the life of this parish.

Gratefully,
St. Ignatius Parish Pastoral Staff
503.777.1491
office@sipdx.org